



A PECO Energy/British Energy Company

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Docket No. 50-461

Document Control Desk
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: Special Report: Failure to Return Clinton Power Station Seismic Monitoring Instrumentation to Service Within Allowed Out-of-Service Time

Clinton Power Station (CPS) Operational Requirements Manual (ORM) Section 2.2.7, "Seismic Monitoring Instrumentation," Action 3.2.7 "a", requires that, with one or more seismic monitoring instruments inoperable for more than 30 days, a Special Report be prepared and submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission pursuant to Operational Requirement 6.9.2, within the next ten days, outlining the cause of the malfunction and the plans for restoring the instrument(s) to an operable status. On April 20, 2000, a portion of seismic monitoring instrumentation was declared inoperable due to failure of an instrumentation drawer in the systems recording and analyzing panel. Thirty days later, on May 20, 2000, the seismic monitoring instrumentation had not been returned to an operable status. AmerGen Energy Company, LLC., is submitting this Special Report in accordance with the noted ORM requirements for seismic monitoring instrumentation being inoperable for greater than 30 days.

The affected portion of the seismic monitoring instrumentation employs triaxial seismic accelerometers as ground motion sensors. When the accelerometers sense ground motion in excess of 0.02 g, the system's recording and analyzing equipment automatically turns on. This equipment provides input to alarms indicating an Operating Basis Earthquake (OBE) or Safe Shutdown Earthquake (SSE) condition. The failure of the instrumentation in the system's recording and analyzing panel prevents the system from automatically turning on, providing input to the OBE and SSE alarms, and electronically recording data on the seismic event. The inoperability of the recording and analyzing panel does not affect the operability of the passive triaxial peak accelerographs and the passive triaxial response spectrum recorder; thus, preserving the capability to permit comparison of a measured response of a seismic event to the design basis for the unit.

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The cause for the seismic monitoring instrumentation being inoperable is a failure of instrumentation in the system's recording and analyzing panel. Because the vendor of the seismic monitoring instrumentation no longer supports the repair of this instrumentation, a plant modification is being pursued to correct this deficiency and restore the seismic monitoring instrumentation to an operable status.

Sincerely yours,



Michael A Reandean
Director - Licensing

JRF/blf

cc: Regional Administrator, Region III, USNRC
NRC Clinton Licensing Project Manager
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Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety